

Message Text

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22

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 (ISO) W

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P 270950Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3875

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DEPT PASS PERDUE (USDA)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TBIO, OTRA (SPJUT, RICHARD), ZA

SUBJECT: ZAMBIA VISIT OF USDA BOTANIST SPJUT

REF: STATE 208466

1. EMBASSY PRESENTED NOTE TO MFA AUGUST 24 REQUESTING CONCURRENCE SPJUT'S PLANNED VISIT TO ZAMBIA (REFTEL) AND SOLICITING GRZ'S ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE. COPY OF WIRELESS FILE STORY ON PROJECT ATTACHED FOR MINISTRYJJS INFORMATION AND BACKGROUND. MFA OFFICER SAID HE WOULD CONTACT EMBASSY WHEN CONCERNED MINISTRIES HAVE BEEN CONSULTED.

2. EMBOFF WHEN PRESENTING NOTE DETECTED NO DISPOSITION ON PART OF MFA TO BE ANYTHING BUT HELPFUL. PROBLEM IS HOW RAPIDLY AND SUCCESSFULLY INTERMINISTERIAL COORDINATION CAN BEACHIEVED. COPIES OF THE NOTES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED INFORMALLY TO TWO MEMBERS OF LOCAL SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY WHO MAY POSSIBLY BE OF ASSISTANCE. FOR TIME ALLOTTED, APPEARS THAT EXTREMELY AMBITIOUS TRAVEL PROGRAM HAS BEEN CHALKED OUT. TRAVEL TO THE GROUND MAY BE SOMEWHAT MORE TIME CONSUMING THAN ENVISAGED IN REFTEL. IF IT NECESSARY TO REFINE ITINERARY AFTER ARRIVAL, EMBASSY'S INCLINATION WOULD BE TO RECOMMEND TRAVEL IN NORTHERN PROVINCE (LAKE BANGWEULE) IN PLACE OF NORTHWESTERN PROVINCE (SOLWEZI). GRZ MAY WELL

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PROHIBIT TRAVEL TO CERTAIN AREAS BORDERING ON OR IN NORTH-

WESTERN PROVINCE.

3. EMBASSY WILL MEET AND MAKE ACCOMMODATIONS AS REQUESTED.
LANDROVER WITH DRIVER CAN BE RENTED FROM ZAMBIA NATIONAL
TOURIST BUREAU (ZNTB) FOR KWACHA 30 (APPROX US 37.80) PER
DAY IN ADVANCE PLUS .25 NG (APPROX US .31) PER KILOMETER.
FUEL IS PROVIDED BY ZNTB. IN ADDITION, TRAVELER PAYS
DRIVER 60 NG (APPROX US .75) PER HOUR FOR EIGHT-HOUR DAY
PLUS STRAIGHT TIME FOR OVERTIME PLUS DRIVER'S ACCOMMODATION
AND MEALS. SOME PRIVATE RENTAL AGENCIES HAVE SLIGHTLY
CHEAPER RATES, BUT EMBASSY WOULD RECOMMEND USE OF ZNTB VEHICLE,
ESPECIALLY IF TRANSIT OF ZAIRE PEDICLE CONTEMPLATED. IT
IS POSSIBLE NOTHING DEFINITE WILL BE HEARD FROM MFA PRIOR TO
SPJUT'S ARRIVAL, BUT WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS.
LOW

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